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COUNTRY East Germany REPORTTOPIC Soviet Motor Vehicle Repair Shop "Progress" at ZeesenEVALUATION PLACE OBTAINED 25X1DATE OF CONTENT DATE OBTAINED DATE PREPARED 21 April 1955REFERENCES PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) REMARKS 25X1

This is UNEVALUATED Information

1. The production quota 1955 of the Soviet motor vehicle repair shop "Progress" at Zeesen 18702, was fulfilled. Vehicles which were to be overhauled in April :

50 Studebaker
50 ZIS
40 tank trucks
10 small buses
20 jeeps
10 ambulances (jeeps)

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2. On 1 April, the Soviet fatigue detail which arrived in March was relieved by another detail which also numbered 100 men. At 0900, the detail daily arrived on five trucks allegedly from Potsdam and left at about 1700. The detail included very young men of 15 to 18 years who had received apparently no military training and had just arrived from the USSR. Although they could not speak German when they arrived, they learned rather quickly how to make themselves understood. They stated that they came from Moscow, but none of ^{them} had obviously been there. One of the young men who said he lived near Moscow actually came from a place 1,500 km away. They refused to talk about military things. The young men were assigned to the various branches of the plant and changed to another branch after one week. They had no practical or technical experience and did not know the most simple tools. They repeatedly stated that they would receive driving instruction after termination of training at Zeesen.

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3.

4. A sufficient quantity of 0.5 to 4-mm iron sheets was available for the first time. Another six tons of scrap iron sheets were delivered from Oberschoeneweide for cannibalizing.

5. German workmen from Oberschoeneweide stated that they did not believe in a possible transfer of the Oberschoeneweide engine plant to Zeesen. The GDR allegedly had agreed that the Soviets could further use the installation at Oberschoeneweide for the engine plant. No measures for

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an enlargement planned for the Zeesen repair shop were observed.

[REDACTED] Comment. The report that the details included young men of 15 to 18 years is forwarded with reserve. The previously observed details consisted of young soldiers only. The age of 15 to 16 years would indicate that contingents of the Soviet youth receive pre-military training in the GDR.

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